

ment of cardiac rheumatism in childhood. The site has been carefully chosen, and is believed to be the best within a convenient distance of the city.

### LORD IVEAGH AND THE LISTER INSTITUTE

Lord Iveagh, head of the Guinness family died October 7th, in his eightieth year. He was greatly interested in all institutions whose object was the prevention of disease. He made large donations to Trinity College, Dublin, and to the hospitals in that city and elsewhere, but it is as the largest individual contributor of our generation to the endowment of medical discovery in the British Isles that he is distinguished. In 1898 he gave £250,000 to the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, then the Jenner Institute, and about ten years later he, in conjunction with the late Sir Ernest Cassel, provided the funds for the erection, equipment, and endowment of the Radium Institute in Rider Street for the prosecution of research into the possibilities of radium as a therapeutic agent, and for the treatment of patients whose means did not permit of their receiving the benefits of radium treatment without financial assistance. In 1898 Lord Iveagh visited the Pasteur Institute, and the project of endowing a similar institute in London began to take shape. He consulted Dr. Thorne Thorne, the principal medical officer of the Local Government Board, who pointed out that it might be wiser to help the Jenner Institute than to found another separate institution. Lord Iveagh visited the Jenner Institute, and subsequently interviewed its chairman, Lord Lister, and Sir Henry Roscoe, its treasurer. Searching inquiries were made concerning the ideals, administration, and financial position of the Institute. Some years afterwards Lord Lister described this interview as a very critical examination; he was quite sure he had failed to satisfy the examiners. However, before many months were past, to his surprise and gratification, he received an intimation from Lord Iveagh that he desired to endow the Institute to the extent of £250,000, subject to certain alterations in its constitution and government.—*Brit. M. J.* Oct. 15, 1927.

It appears that at the Harvard Medical School it is the custom of the professor of medicine, Dr. F. W. Peabody, to address the students on "The care of the patient." Dr. Peabody's text is that while the treatment of a disease may be entirely impersonal, the care of a patient must be completely personal; and he asks whether it is possible for the student to form such personal relationship in an impersonal institution such as a hospital. He finds that it is possible, and urges the student to approach the patient with sympathy, tact, and consideration, to get his confidence, so that the patient may come to regard the student as his own personal physician,

### AN ENDOWED RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The new pathological laboratory and research institute at the City of London Hospital for Diseases of Heart and Lungs, Victoria Park, the gift of the Prudential Assurance Company, was opened on July 19th by Mr. Neville Chamberlain, Minister of Health. Sir Alexander Kaye Butterworth, Chairman of the Hospital, in acknowledging the generous gift of the Prudential, announced that the necessary additional cost of equipping and fitting out the laboratories had been partially met by an anonymous donation of £500 and by a contribution of £400 from the Ladies' Association. He was further desirous of building up an endowment fund for research, and a start had been made by a gift of £250. Mr. A. C. Thompson, the Chairman of the Prudential, in welcoming the Minister, mentioned that his company had decided to provide the remainder of the money necessary for equipment, a further sum of £400. Mr. Chamberlain said that no Government department was engaged in such an unceasing warfare as was the Ministry of Health. In the last ten years the mortality-rate of pulmonary tuberculosis had been reduced by nearly 28 per cent, that of the respiratory disease by 34 per cent, and of heart disease by 3 per cent. From a national point of view, over two and a half million pounds was spent annually out of the rates and taxes upon the treatment of civilian cases of tuberculosis alone, and in considering the national loss a great deal had to be added to that figure for the waste of productive power and disablement. There were two directions in which he hoped it might be possible still further to reduce this drain upon the national resources—viz. (1) the improvement of the means of diagnosis, particularly perhaps in cancer and tuberculosis; (2) the provision of post-graduate education which would enable the general practitioner to keep up to date. *He welcomed the recognition by one of the great companies connected with the National Insurance schemes of the necessity for looking ahead and making provision for work which would ultimately be for the benefit of the country as a whole.* After the opening ceremony a garden party took place at which Lady Maud Carnegie was hostess, and the new laboratories were opened to visitors.—*Lancet.* July 30, 1927.

and all the rest as mere consultants. Sickness, says Dr. Peabody, produces an abnormally sensitive emotional state in almost everyone; in many cases the emotional state repercusses on the organic disease. Even so-called functional diseases are just as real to the patient as organic disease; and the student's interest in the patient should not evaporate when organic disease has been excluded. Rather should he be stimulated to search further for the cause that has remained hidden, and so prepare himself for the more personal relationships which are inherent in the private practice of medicine.